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In Support of HB653 Prohibiting Smoking in Cars with children 02/19/2007

House Judiciary

Second Hand Smoke and Children

How Second Hand Smoke Affects a Child.

Children face a higher risk than adults of the negative effects of second hand

smoke. Not only is a child's body still developing physically, but their breathing rate is faster than that of adults. Adults breathe in and out approximately 14 to 18 times a minute, where newborns can breathe as many as 60 times a minute. Up until a child is about 5 years old, the respiratory rate is quite fast; usually between 20 and 60 breaths per minute.

When the air is tainted with cigarette smoke, young, developing lungs receive a higher concentration of inhaled toxins than do older lungs. And think about it: young children have less control over their surroundings than the rest of us. Babies can't move to another room because the air is smoky. They depend on us to provide them with clean air to breathe. Second Hand Smoke and Children - Facts Babies whose mothers smoked during pregnancy often weigh less when they are born than those who are born to non smoking mothers. Babies whose mothers smoked during pregnancy are at an increased risk for developmental issues such as learning disabilities and cerebral palsy. SIDS (sudden infant Death Syndrome) Fetuses exposed to chemicals in cigarettes through the placenta are thought to be at an increased risk of SIDS.

49,000 non-smokers die each year from 2nd-hand smoke. Get the facts. www.areyouokaywiththat.com

References:

WebMD

Mayo Clinic

Centers for Disease Control The American Lung Association

The Environmental Protection Agency

Cliff Christian

4525 Highway 12 West

Helena, 147 59601

406-442-0202

cliff.christian@bresnan.net